

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

505 B4 >  
1. An image processing apparatus which comprises:  
detecting means for detecting information relating  
to invisible copyright from image data which is input;

5 and

control means for controlling the print of said  
image data according to information relating to said  
detected copyright.

10 2. The image processing apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein the information relating to said  
invisible copyright is digital watermark information.

15 3. The image processing apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein said control means prohibits said  
print.

20 4. The image processing apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein said control means prohibits the  
output of said image data to a printer which performs  
said print.

25 5. The image processing apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein said control means outputs a control  
signal which gives said image data to a printer which  
performs said print to prohibit the print of said image  
data.

Sub A >  
6. The image processing apparatus which farther  
comprises identifying means for identifying a password  
embedded in said image data, wherein said control means  
permits the print of an image which corresponds to said  
5 image data when the same password as said password is  
input.

Sub B, >  
7. The image processing apparatus according to  
claim 1, farther comprising:

10 ID detecting means for detecting ID information in  
order to identify said image data from said image data;  
inputting means for inputting a password by a  
user; and

15 receiving means for sending said ID information  
and a password to an author's side device to receive  
information of print permission for said image  
formation.

20 8. The image processing apparatus according to  
claim 1 which further comprises instructing means for  
instructing acceptance for accounting for the print  
using said image data to an author's side device,  
wherein said control means permits the print of said  
image data in response to said instruction.

25 9. An image processing apparatus which comprises:  
detecting means for detecting a digital watermark

contained in image data;

obtaining means for obtaining an address of a device which holds a data list relating to said image data from said detected digital watermark information;

5 receiving means for receiving a data list from said device according to said address; and

data receiving means for receiving data selected by a user from said image data list.

10 10. The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data is an image, a speech or a movie.

15 11. The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data list writes therein a plurality of data pieces and charge for said plurality of data pieces.

20 12. The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data reception is performed by selecting user's desired data from said data list and inputting the number of a cash card of said user.

25 13. The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data is data of another produce of a painter who has written said image data.

14. The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data is data of another produce of a composer who has written a musical note corresponding to said image data.

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15. The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data is data of another produce of an author who has written a book according to said image data.

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16. The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data is data of another produce of an photographer who has taken a photograph corresponding to said image data.

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17. The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said address comprises a plurality of addresses and said data receiving means receives a data list from a plurality of devices.

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18. An image processing method which comprises:  
a step of detecting information relating to invisible copyright from input image data by detecting means; and

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a step of controlling the print of said image data according to information relating to said detected copyright by control means.

19. An image processing method which comprises:

a step of detecting a digital watermark contained in image data by detecting means;

5 a step of obtaining an address of a device which holds a data list relating to said image data from said detected digital watermark information by obtaining means;

a step of receiving a data list from said device according to said address by receiving means; and

10           a step of receiving data selected by a user from  
said image data list by data receiving means.